

TODD E. KISER Acting Commissioner

### Insurance Department

### State of Utah **Title and Escrow Commission Meeting Meeting Information**

Date: July 8, 2013 Time: 9:00 AM Place: East Bldg, Spruce Room

### **MEMBERS**

**COMMISSION MEMBERS** 

Chair, Larry Turner Blake, Washington Cnty Co-Chair, Kirk Donald Smith, Weber Cnty

Matthew Blaine Sager, Maricopa Cnty, AZ Sylvia Skinner Andersen, Public Member

Jeffery Donald Wiener, Salt Lake Cnty

DEPARTMENT STAFF

Perri Babalis, AG Counsel Green-Wright, MC Dir.

Brett Barratt, Deputy Comm. Tammy Greening, Examiner Mark Kleinfield, ALJ Suzette Jilene Whitby, PIO Recorder

Tracy Klausmeier, P&C Director

### **AGENDA**

General Session: (Open to the Public)

- Welcome / Larry Blake, Chair
- Install New Members and Complete Paperwork / Dept. Personnel
- Review of Title & Escrow Commission Duties / Perri
- Adopt Minutes of Previous Meeting
- Reports
  - o Concur with Licensee Report / Tammy
  - o Concur with Complaint & Enforcement Reports for July / Tammy
  - o Request for Dual Licensee Expedited Request: None
  - o Request for Attorney Exemption: None
- Administrative Proceedings Action / ALJ
  - Stipulation & Order:
    - Eastwood Title Insurance Agency
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Liberty Title LC
    - Jax Hale Pettey
  - o Request for a Hearing: None
  - o Order to Show Cause: None
  - o Informal Adjudicative Proceeding & Order: None
  - o Formal Adjudicative Proceeding: None

#### **Old Business**

- o Discuss Proposed Rule Amendments to R592-2-7(2) / Perri
- o Discuss Issue of Providing Lenders with Disbursement Schedules, Canceled Checks and Access to all Records, Post Closing / Larry
  - Feedback from ULTA.
- o New Bulletin Re: 31A-19a-209(3) and R592-15-7 Requiring That Rates & Charges Cannot be for Less than the Cost of Doing Insurance or Escrow Business / Brett
- **New Business**
- Elect Chair & Co-Chair (31A-2-403(5) / Perri
- **Other Business**

Executive Session (Closed to Public)

General Session: (Open to the Public)

Adjourn:

M. GALE LEMMON #4363
Assistant Attorney General
JOHN E. SWALLOW #5802
Attorney General
Attorneys for Utah Insurance Department
160 East 300 South, Fifth Floor
P.O. Box 140874
Salt Lake City, UT 84114-0874
Telephone (801) 366-0375

## BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF UTAH

**COMPLAINANT:** 

DEFAULT AND DEFAULT ORDER

UTAH STATE INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

**RESPONDENT:** 

EASTWOOD TITLE INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

Atten: Jeffrey Cardon P.O. Box 971597 Provo, UT 84097

License No. 260426

Docket No. <u>2013-028-PC</u>

Enf. Case No. <u>3219</u>

### **DEFAULT**

On Tuesday, the 11<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2013, at 9:30 a.m., the date and time set for the hearing on an Order to Show Cause in this matter, the Complainant appeared by and through it attorney, M. Gale Lemmon, Assistant Attorney General, the Respondent failed to appear either in person or through counsel. Therefore, pursuant to Utah Code Annotated Section 63G-4-209, the Default of the Respondent is hereby entered.

DATED this 18 day of Jone, 2013.

TODD E. KISER INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

MARK E. KLEINFIELD, Esq.

Presiding Officer

### **DEFAULT ORDER**

The Default of the Respondent having previously been entered, the presiding officer hereby adopts the allegations in the Motion for an Order to Show Cause as his Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, and enters the following Recommended Order:

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE TITLE AND ESCROW COMMISSION IMPOSE THE FOLLOWING PENALTY:

- 1. The insurance license of the Respondent, Eastwood Title Insurance Agency, Inc., be revoked forthwith.
- 2. Respondent be ordered to immediately cease doing any insurance or escrow business in the State of Utah.

TODD E. KISER INSURANCE COMMISSIONER

MARK E. KLEINFIELD

Presiding Officer

Utah Department of Insurance State Office Building, Room 3110

Salt Lake City, Utah 84114 Telephone (801) 538-3800

### ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDED ORDER AND IMPOSITION OF PENALTY

By a vote of	to, taken in	n open meeting on this date, the Title and Escrow
Commission hereby ado	pts the recommende	d order of the presiding officer and imposes the
penalties recommended	herein above.	
DATED this	day of	, 2013.

LARRY TURNER BLAKE, Chairman
Title and Escrow Commission

### **NOTIFICATION**

Respondent is hereby notified that failure to abide by the terms of this Order may subject it to further penalties, including additional forfeitures of up to \$5,000.00 per violation and the filing of an action to enforce this Order in the District Court which may impose penalties of up to \$10,000.00 per day for continued violation.

You are further notified that other jurisdictions in which you may be licensed may require that you report this action to them.

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M. GALE LEMMON #4363 Assistant Attorney General JOHN E. SWALLOW #5802 Attorney General Attorneys for Utah Insurance Department 160 East 300 South, Fifth Floor PO Box 140874 Salt Lake City, UT 84114

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UTAH STATE INSURANCE DEPT.

Telephone: 801-366-0375 Facsimile: 801-366-0378

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### BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF UTAH

#### **COMPLAINANT:**

UTAH INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

#### **RESPONDENT:**

1<sup>st</sup> LIBERTY TITLE LC 9488 Union Square, Suite 100 Sandy, UT 84070 License No. 371709

### STIPULATION AND ORDER

Docket No.

Enf. Case No. 3323

### **STIPULATION**

- 1. Respondent, 1<sup>st</sup> Liberty Title LC ("1<sup>st</sup> Liberty"), is a resident producer title insurance agency in the State of Utah, holding License 371709.
- 2. Respondent stipulates with the Complainant, Utah Insurance Department, as follows:
  - a. If a hearing were held, witnesses called by the Complainant could offer and introduce evidence that would support the Findings of Fact herein;
  - b. Respondent admits the Findings of Fact and Conclusions made therefrom;

c. Respondent stipulates to the summary entry of the Order herein which shall be in lieu of other administrative proceedings by Complainant in this matter; and

d. Respondent and Complainant have negotiated the terms of the Order entered herein and Respondent agrees to its entry and further agrees to be bound by all its terms.

3. Respondent is aware of its right to a hearing at which it may be represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Respondent has irrevocably waived its right to such hearing and to any appeal related thereto.

4. Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the State of Utah Insurance Commissioner and Title and Escrow Commission as to all matters herein.

5. Respondent is acting herein free from any duress or coercion of any kind or nature, having been advised fully as to its rights set forth herein.

6. Respondent acknowledges that the issuance of this Order by the Title and Escrow Commission is solely for purpose of disposition of the matter entitled herein.

7. If this agreement is not accepted or the penalty not imposed as agreed upon by the parties, then this Stipulation will be void and of no effect.

DATED this 3 day of Jone, 2013.

1st LIBERTY THEE, LC

Jax Hale Pertey, Vice President

UTAH INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

M. Gale Lemmon, Assistant Attorney General

Based upon the foregoing Stipulation and information in the file, the Presiding Officer makes the following Findings of Fact:

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. On February 7, 2013, the Department created a list of all title producers who had reinstated their licenses during the month of January 2013. After reviewing the list and SIRCON licensing, it was determinated that 1<sup>st</sup> Liberty's Vice President, Jax Hale Pettey's license had lapsed on August 31, 2012, and was not reinstated until January 10, 2013.
  - 2. It was also determined that Jax Hale Pettey had never been associated to 1st Liberty.
- 3. On March 5, 2013, a letter from the Department was sent to Jax Hale Pettey requesting a narrative statement regarding any title insurance business conducted between August 31, 2012 and January 10, 2013.
- 4. On April 15, 2013, Jax Hale Pettey, Respondent's Vice President, sent a written reply stating that 86 closings were conducted between August 31, 2012 and January 10, 2013, the time period during which Pettey's licensed was lapsed.
  - 5. Respondent was forthcoming during the investigation.
  - 6. Respondent has agreed to an administrative forfeiture in the total amount of \$2,500.00.

Based upon the foregoing Stipulation and Findings of Fact, the Presiding Officer enters the following Conclusions of Law:

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Utah Code Ann. Section 31A-23a-103 requires that a title agency utilize the services of a licensed individual to conduct title business in this State. Respondent violated this statutory

mandate when it allowed Jax Hale Pettey to conduct 86 closings in its behalf while Pettey's license was lapsed.

- 2. Utah Code Ann. Section 31A-23a-302 (1) mandates that a licensed individual be designated to the title agency in order to conduct title business on its behalf. Respondent violated this provision by not having an active association with Jax Hale Pettey while he conducted 86 closings on its behalf.
  - 3. An administrative forfeiture in the amount of \$2,500.00 is appropriate in this matter.

### RECOMMENDED ORDER

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE TITLE AND ESCROW COMMISSION IMPOSE THE FOLLOWING PENALTY:

1. Respondent, 1<sup>st</sup> Liberty Title LC, be assessed an administrative forfeiture in the amount of \$2,500.00 to be paid to the Department within thirty (30) days of the date of the imposition of the penalty by the Title and Escrow Commission.

DATED this 26 day of June, 2013.

TODD E. KISER Insurance Commissioner

MARK E. KLEINFIELD

Administrative Law Judge

Utah Insurance Department

ADDITION OF RECOMMENDED ORDER AND IMITOSITION OF TENALIT					
By a vote of to, taken in open meeting on this date, the Title and Escrow					
Commission hereby adopts the recommended order of the presiding officer and imposes the					
penalty recommended herein above.					
DATED this, 2013.					
LARRY TURNER BLAKE, Chairman					
Title and Escrow Commission					

### **NOTIFICATION**

You are hereby notified that a failure to obey an Order of the Commissioner may subject you to further penalties, including forfeitures of up to \$5,000.00 per violation and the suspension or revocation of your license and the filing of an action in district court, which may impose forfeitures of up to \$10,000.00 per day for continued violation.

You are further notified that other jurisdictions in which you may be licensed may require that you report this action to them.

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M. GALE LEMMON #4363 Assistant Attorney General JOHN E. SWALLOW #5802 Attorney General Attorneys for Utah Insurance Department 160 East 300 South, Fifth Floor PO Box 140874 Salt Lake City, UT 84114

Telephone: 801-366-0375 Facsimile: 801-366-0378

### BEFORE THE INSURANCE COMMISSIONER OF THE STATE OF UTAH

### **COMPLAINANT:**

### STIPULATION AND ORDER

UTAH INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

Docket No.

**RESPONDENT:** 

Enf. Case No. 3322

JAX HALE PETTEY
9488 Union Square, Suite 100
Sandy, UT 84070
License No. 89769

### **STIPULATION**

- 1. Respondent, Jax Hale Pettey ("Pettey"), is a licensed title producer in the State of Utah, holding License 89769.
- 2. Respondent stipulates with the Complainant, Utah Insurance Department, as follows:
  - a. If a hearing were held, witnesses called by the Complainant could offer and introduce evidence that would support the Findings of Fact herein;
  - b. Respondent admits the Findings of Fact and Conclusions made therefrom;

 Respondent stipulates to the summary entry of the Order herein which shall be in lieu of other administrative proceedings by Complainant in this matter; and

d. Respondent and Complainant have negotiated the terms of the Order entered herein and Respondent agrees to its entry and further agrees to be bound by all its terms.

3. Respondent is aware of his right to a hearing at which he may be represented by counsel, present evidence and cross-examine witnesses. Respondent has irrevocably waived his right to such hearing and to any appeal related thereto.

4. Respondent admits the jurisdiction of the State of Utah Insurance Commissioner and Title and Escrow Commission as to all matters herein.

5. Respondent is acting herein free from any duress or coercion of any kind or nature, having been advised fully as to his rights set forth herein.

6. Respondent acknowledges that the issuance of this Order by the Title and Escrow Commission is solely for purpose of disposition of the matter entitled herein.

7. If this agreement is not accepted or the penalty not imposed as agreed upon by the parties, then this Stipulation will be void and of no effect.

DATED this 13 day of  $\sqrt{Une}$  , 2013.

AX HALE PETTEY

UTAH INSURANCE DEPARTMENT

M. Gale Lemmon, Assistant Attorney General

Based upon the foregoing Stipulation and information in the file, the Presiding Officer makes the following Findings of Fact:

### **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. On February 7, 2013, the Department created a list of all title producers who had renewed or reinstated their licenses during the month of January 2013. After reviewing the list and SIRCON licensing, it was determinated that Jax Hale Pettey's license had lapsed on August 31, 2012, and was not reinstated until January 10, 2013.
- 2. It was also determined Respondent had never been associated to 1<sup>st</sup> Liberty Title LC although he conducted closings on its behalf.
- 3. On March 5, 2013, a letter from the Department was sent to Respondent requesting a narrative statement regarding any title insurance business he conducted between August 31, 2012 through January 10, 2013.
- 4. On April 15, 2013, Respondent sent a written reply stating that he conducted 86 closings between August 31, 2012 and January 10, 2013, the time period during which his licensed was lapsed.
- 5. Respondent was forthcoming during the investigation and took full responsibility for the lapse.
  - 6. Respondent has agreed to an administrative forfeiture in the total amount of \$1,500.00.

Based upon the foregoing Stipulation and Findings of Fact, the Presiding Officer enters the following Conclusions of Law:

### **CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

1. Utah Code Ann. Section 31A-23a-103 requires that a person doing title insurance business be licensed by the State. Respondent violated this statutory mandate by conducting 86 closings for 1<sup>st</sup> Liberty Title LC while his license was lapsed.

2. Utah Code Ann. Section 31A-23a-302 (1) mandates that a licensed individual be designated to the title agency in order to conduct title business on its behalf. Respondent violated this provision inasmuch as he was not designated to 1<sup>st</sup> Liberty Title LC. Respondent has since been associated to 1<sup>st</sup> Liberty Title LC.

3. An administrative forfeiture in the amount of \$1,500.00 is appropriate in this matter.

### **RECOMMENDED ORDER**

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE TITLE AND ESCROW COMMISSION IMPOSE THE FOLLOWING PENALTY:

1. Respondent, Jax Hale Pettey, shall be assessed an administrative forfeiture in the amount of \$1,500.00 to be paid to the Department within thirty (30) days of the date of the Order.

DATED this 26 day of Jone, 2013.

TODD E. KISER
Insurance Commissioner

MARK E. KLEINFIELD

Administrative Law Judge Utah Insurance Department

ADOPTION OF RECOMM	IENDED ORDER AND IMPOSITION OF PENALTY				
By a vote of, taken in open meeting on this date, the Title and Escrow					
Commission hereby adopts the rec	ommended order of the presiding officer and imposes the				
penalty recommended herein abov	e.				
DATED this day	of, 2013.				
	TARRY TURNER DIAME CI.				
	LARRY TURNER BLAKE, Chairman Title and Escrow Commission				

### **NOTIFICATION**

You are hereby notified that a failure to obey an Order of the Commissioner may subject you to further penalties, including forfeitures of up to \$2,500.00 per violation and the suspension or revocation of your license and the filing of an action in district court, which may impose forfeitures of up to \$10,000.00 per day for continued violation.

You are further notified that other jurisdictions in which you may be licensed may require that you report this action to them.

### R592-2-1. Authority.

This rule is promulgated pursuant to Subsections 31A-2-404(2)(e), (g), and (h), and (6) to provide the process for conducting or delegating an administrative hearing in a title insurance matter administrative hearing and imposing a penalty for a violation of statute or rule.

### R592-2-2. Purpose and Scope.

- (1) The purposes of this rule are:
- (a) to establish procedures for the commission:
- (i) to delegate to the commissioner's administrative law judge the conduct of an administrative hearing to resolve a title insurance matter; or
- (ii) to conduct an administrative hearing to resolve a title insurance matter; and
- (b) to establish procedures for the commission,
- (i) to impose penalties; and
- (ii) for the commissioner to concur with the penalties imposed.
- (2) This rule applies to all title licensees, applicants for a title insurance license, unlicensed persons doing the business of title insurance, and continuing education providers submitting title continuing education programs for approval.

### R592-2-3. Definitions.

For purposes of this rule, the commission adopts the definitions set forth in Utah Code Annotated (U.C.A.) Title 31A and the following:

- (1) "Commission" means the Title and Escrow Commission.
- (2) "Commissioner" means the Utah's insurance commissioner.
- (3) "Title insurance matter" means a matter related to:
- (a) title insurance; and
- (b) an escrow conducted by a title producer.

### R592-2-4. Title Insurance Matters Referred for Enforcement.

- (1) A title insurance matter referred for enforcement will be resolved by:
- (i) an informal adjudicative action proceeding pursuant to R592-2-5;
- (ii) a stipulation and order issued approved by the commissioner; or
- (iii) an formal administrative adjudicative hearing proceeding conducted either by the commission or the commissioner's administrative law judge pursuant to R592-2-6.

# R592-2-5. Imposition of a Penalty When an Informal Adjudicative Proceeding Is Used to Resolve a Title Insurance Matter.

- (1) If the commissioner uses an informal adjudicative proceeding as set forth in 63G-4-203 and R590- 160 to resolve a violation listed in Table 1 below, the commissioner shall use the penalties imposed by the commission in this Section.
- (2) The commission shall impose the following penalties on title licensees for the violations listed in Table 1 below when resolved through an informal adjudicative proceeding.

Table 1

Violation Failure to complete required continuing education hours.	1st Proceeding Individual: \$1,000; Agency: n/a	2 <sup>nd</sup> Proceeding Individual: \$2,000: Agency: n/a
Failure to respond to an inquiry of the commissioner.	Individual: \$500; Agency: \$750	Individual: \$1,000; Agency: \$1,500
Failure to file a required rate, form, or report.	Individual: n/a Agency: \$1,000	Individual: n/a; Agency: \$2,000
Late filing of a required rate, form, or report.	Individual: n/a; Agency: \$750	Individual: n/a; Agency: \$1,500
Failure to charge or collect a correct premium or a correct filed fee.	Individual: \$1, <del>000</del> 25 Agency: \$2,500	0; Individual: \$2,5000; Agency: \$5,000

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Charging or Individual: \$1,000; Individual: \$2,000; collecting a non-Agency: \$2,500 Agency: \$5,000 filed required fee.

Failure to pay

Failure to pay Individual: \$1,000500; Individual:  $\$2\pm,000$ ; assessment when due. Agency: \$1,500750 Agency: \$1,5003,000Agency: \$1,5003,000

### R592-2-6. Use of a Formal Adjudicative Proceeding n Administrative Hearing to Resolve a Title Insurance Matter.

- (1) When the commissioner sets a date for a hearing in a formal adjudicative proceeding n administrative hearing to resolve a title insurance matter, the commissioner shall inform the commission of the hearing date.
- (2) After being informed of thea hearing date, the commission shall, in accordance with Section 31A-2-404(2)(e), either:
- (a) delegate the conduct of the administrative hearing to the commissioner's administrative law judge; or
- (b) conduct the administrative hearing.
- (3) InFor an administrative hearing in a formal adjudicative proceeding conducted by the commission, the commission shall:
- (a) accept the date, time and place set by the commissioner or set a different date, time, and place for the administrative hearing;
- (b) cause notification to be sent to the respondent(s), the commissioner's administrative law judge, and the commissioner's enforcement attorney of the date, time, and place of the administrative hearing;
- (c) conduct the hearing pursuant to U.C.A. § 63G-4-206 and R590-160;
- (d) impose penalties in accordance with Sections 31A-2-308, 31A-2-404, 31A-23a-111, 31A-23a-112, 31A-26-213, and 31A-26-214, subject to the concurrence of the commissioner; and
- (e) issue an oOrder on Hearing.
- (4) The commissioner's administrative law judge shall assist the commission in its conduct of an administrative a hearing.

### R592-2-7. Imposition of Penalties.

The commission shall impose a penalty as follows:

- (1) for an informal adjudicative proceeding, a penalty shall be imposed in accordance with Table 1 in R592-2-5;
- (2) for a stipulation and order approved by the commissioner, the commission shall:
- (a) impose the recommended penalty; or
- (b) return the stipulation and order to the commissioner for further resolution.
- -(3) for an formal adjudicative proceeding administrative hearing conducted by the commissioner's administrative law judge pursuant to R592-2-6 (2)(a), the commission shall impose the recommended penalty or return the matter to the commissioner for further resolution a different penalty, subject to the concurrence of the commissioner; or
- (4) for a <u>formal adjudicative proceedingn administrative hearing</u> conducted by the commission, the commission shall impose a penalty, subject to the concurrence of the commissioner.

### R592-2-8. Severability.

If any provision or clause of this rule or its application to any person or situation is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect any other provision or application of this rule which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this rule are declared to be severable.

### R592-2-9. Enforcement Date.

The commissioner will begin enforcing this rule upon the rule's effective date.